

OBSTACLES TO SUCCESS

Scenario #15 (female)

Today is Mock Interviews with Career Services. Yesterday when she was going over what was going to happen, she made sure everyone knew that they needed to wear “appropriate interview attire,” so you’re going through your closet trying to pull together an outfit. You look at some pictures on the internet and lay out a skirt, blouse and heels, match some jewelry to it, and do your nails. You’re ready.

After your interview, the Advisor sits with you one-on-one to discuss how it went. Everything was great...except your clothes. She says that your mini is too short and your blouse is a little tight, and that sparkly heels and big hoops are more for dancing than interviewing. She also says that bright pink nail polish isn’t “professional” and suggests a more neutral color. You’re a little offended because you thought you looked really good and at least you weren’t in jeans and flip-flops like that other girl. You don’t have to look like a librarian, right??

Identify the obstacle: _____

What negative impact(s) can this obstacle have on your goals as a student? As a professional?

Identify available resources and how to access/approach each one:

Identify steps/actions to overcome the obstacle. How can you work with your available resources to come up with solutions?

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Scenario #21

You have an interview scheduled today at 11:00 a.m. Choose one of the scenarios below to complete this exercise.
(May discuss all as a group or class exercise)

- A. Your mom has just told you that she has to take your dad to a doctor’s appointment at 12:15 and since there won’t be enough time for you to come back home with the car, they will just go with you and wait for you to finish. You know it’s a large lobby so it shouldn’t be a problem for them to sit in a corner chair.
- B. Ten minutes before you are ready to leave for your interview, your aunt and cousin arrive at your house; your mom tells you that they are all three going to go along with you for support because they know how nervous you are. You’re not sure if this is okay but are secretly grateful that they will be there anyway.
- C. Your babysitter has backed out on you half an hour before you have to leave for your interview and you have no one to watch your 11-year-old. You decide to take her with you and tell her to just sit quietly in the waiting area with a book and your cell phone while you have your interview. She’s a shy, quiet child and you know she won’t bother anyone.

Identify the obstacle: _____

What negative impact(s) can this obstacle have on your goals as a student? As a professional?

Identify available resources and how to access/approach each one:

Identify steps/actions to overcome the obstacle. How can you work with your available resources to come up with solutions?

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Scenario #26

Your CS Advisor caught up with you in the hallway outside the Financial Aid Office at school today and reminded you that he needed to meet with you soon to talk about starting your job search. That's the last thing you wanted to hear right now – you've got some things going on in your personal life that you want to take care of first, and all you want to do is get through your extern so that you can be done with school and have some free time to deal with stuff for a while before you have to start working. You only need a month or two and then you'll get serious about looking for a job but when you tell your Advisor that, he says it's really hard to get back into it if you take a break now. Not what you want to hear!

Identify the obstacle: _____

What negative impact(s) can this obstacle have on your goals as a student? As a professional?

Identify available resources and how to access/approach each one:

Identify steps/actions to overcome the obstacle. How can you work with your available resources to come up with solutions?
